

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4932

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, TGEN

SUBJECT: ENRICHMENT: ELECTRICAL UTILITIES MEET
URANIUM

REF: A. PARIS 29817, B. EC BRUSSELS 4227

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT PARIS
MEETING NOVEMBER 17 (PARA 1, REF A) OF COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION
OF EUROPEAN PRODUCERS OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY:

"THE COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN PRODUCERS OF
ELECTRIC ENERGY MET IN PARIS ON NOVEMBER 17, 1973 AND ANALYSED THE
OFFERS RECEIVED FROM EUROTIF AND URENCO (THE TWO EUROPEAN
GROUPS WHICH RESPECTIVELY DEVELOP THE ENRICHMENT OF URANIUM
BY GASEOUS DIFFUSION AND ELTRACENTRIFUGATION) AND DECIDED TO
PROCEED WITH DISCUSSIONS WITH THESE TWO PROMOTERS.

THE NEEDS OF ITS MEMBERS FOR SEPARATIVE WORK HAVE BEEN
EXAMINED. PROVIDED THERE IS SOME COOPERATION BETWEEN ELECTRIC
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UTILITIES, THESE NEEDS SHOULD ALLOW THESE TWO PROMOTERS TO BE

ASSURED OF THE DISPOSAL OF SUFFICIENT PORTION OF THEIR PRODUCTION SO THAT THEY CAN CONFIRM THEIR DECISION TO LAUNCH THEIR RESPECTIVE PROJECTS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE EXISTENCE OF OTHER MARKETS. MOREOVER, IT REMAINS NECESSARY TO APPLY INCREASINGLY TO THE EXTRA-EUROPEAN SECTOR OF ENRICHMENT. IT HAS ALSO BEEN DECIDED TO GIVE TO THE ASSOCIATION THE FORM OF A GROUP OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS WHICH WILL BE CALLED "ORGANISATION OF PRODUCERS OF NUCLEAR ELECTRICITY."

THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS GROUP OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS WILL BE TO PROCEED WITH THE STUDIES AND ORGANIZE CONSULTATION AMONG ITS MEMBERS FOR FACILITATING THE NEGOTIATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THEIR CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLYING SEPARATIVE WORK. THIS GROUP OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS WILL INCLUDE MEMBERS BY RIGHT AND MEMBERS BOUND TO THE ASSOCIATION BY CONTRACT."

2. COMMENT: COMMUNIQUE INDICATES THAT ELECTRICAL UTILITIES WILL CONTINUE TO PREFER POLICY OF NOT PUTTING ALL THEIR EGGS IN ONE BASKET. PER REPORT EC BRUSSELS (REF. B), THEY ARE WARY OF POSSIBLE EC RESTRICTIONS TO "BUY EUROPEAN," PREFERRING INSTEAD TO BE FREE TO CHOOSE FROM AS WIDE AS POSSIBLE NUMBER OF ENRICHMENT SUPPLIERS.
IRWIN

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